

Southeast News

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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JANUARY 1971

NUMBER 3

january

Lord of all being and all life,
As we come into 1971

We would like to think that we can start all over again

Forgetting the past —

Forgetting the things we have done which should have been left
undone,

Forgetting the undone things which we should have done.

But you have not made life so disjointed as all that.

What we have done:

What we have hated,

What we have misused,

What we have said, or thought, or loved.

What we have not done:

What we have ignored,

What we have "passed by on the other side"

As we have established for ourselves

Neat but irrelevant priorities;

All these are a part of our own lives

And a part of history.

Lord of all being and all life,

The most we can do is:

Thank you for the joys of 1970 and previous years,

Ask your forgiveness for the miseries of man to which we have
contributed,

And face the world — the first, the second, and the third world—

With a sense of renewal

And commitment to Your priorities.

Lord of all being and all life,

As we come into 1971

So be it.

E. P.

U. C. C. President Lauds CRJ And MRSJ

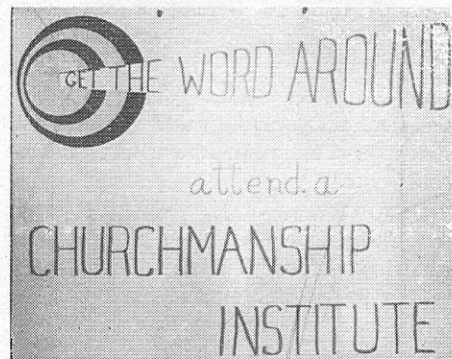
In his greetings to the co-sponsored convention of the U.C.C. Ministers for Racial and Social Justice and the Commission for Racial Justice, President Robert V. Moss stated that Black churchmen have a "primary task to identify with the whole Black community and to work for that community's liberation."

Expressing his confidence in the Commission for Racial Justice, Dr. Moss specifically cited the Rev. Charles E. Cobb, Executive Director of the CRJ and his staff, saying, "I am hearing people all over the country say, 'they get things done. They are developing imaginative and significant programs on a modest budget.' Charles

E. Cobb, in my estimation, is a great churchman and gives prophetic leadership. I want publicly to pledge to him again my confidence and support. It is often a lonely, frustrating and thankless task.

"The debt of the United Church of Christ to the Ministers for Racial and Social Justice is beyond measure," Dr. Moss continued. "Despite apathy, discouragement, and open opposition, it has made a profound impact on the life of the United Church. I express gratitude to that group and to its leaders in making it possible for us to have a Commission for Racial Justice and begin to fight the

(Continued on Page 2)



January Churchmanship Institutes

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10 — Atlanta area churches, Bonanza Community Church, Bonanza, Jonesboro, Georgia.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17 — North Georgia churches, Liberty Church, Bowman, Georgia.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24 — Roanoke, Ala., area churches, Lowell Church, Roanoke, Alabama.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 — "Valley" churches, Todd Church, Shawmut, Ala.

* * * *

Plan also now for February Churchmanship Institutes, scheduled as follows:

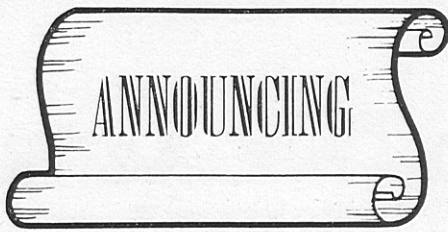
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7 — Columbus, Phenix City, and south Georgia churches, at First Church, Columbus, Ga.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 — Central Alabama and Montgomery area churches, First Church, South Union St., Montgomery.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 — South Alabama churches, Blackwood Community Church, near Headland, Alabama.

All sessions are from 3 to 5 P. M. (Eastern or Central Time, according to time zone of host church.)

Practical help in matters of evangelism, youth ministry, program planning for adults, stewardship education, and community outreach. At least five persons (youth and adults, lay and clergy) should attend from each church.



... a column of reminders to help you
with your planning.

JANUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 21: a series of **CHURCHMANSHIP INSTITUTES**. See announcements elsewhere in this issue. Urge others from your church to attend the one most convenient to you.

JANUARY 15 — Birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. Use this date to "remind the community of his goals and life-style. Initiate a community project to remember King's life."

JANUARY 18 - 25 — Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. To quote President Robert V. Moss, "The week should . . . be the focal point of study and planning for joint efforts (among churches of different denominations) in the year ahead."

FEBRUARY 7 — Church Vocations Sunday. An excellent opportunity to interest students and adults in church-related occupations.

FEBRUARY 14 — Race Relations Sunday. Observe in terms of Crisis in the Nation program.

FEBRUARY 21 - 28 — Brotherhood Week. Utilize this week to challenge racist policies and practices in business, labor, church, social clubs.

FEBRUARY 24 — Ash Wednesday, beginning of Lent. Provide meaningful opportunities to study the meaning of Christ's life—Bible study groups, etc. Order from Eden Publishing House (well ahead of this date) copies of *The Fellowship of Prayer*, a devotional book for Lent.

MARCH 5 — World Day of Prayer. See article elsewhere in this issue.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 13, and 14 — **SEC YOUTH ANNUAL MEETING**, Camp Sumatanga near Gallant, Alabama. Watch mails for details.

MARCH 21 — "One Great Hour of Sharing—Share Our Substance" offering. Send for materials far in advance. Order from Stewardship Council, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

APRIL 4 — Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week.

APRIL 11 — Easter Day

APRIL 25 — Consultation on Church Union Day. Also National Christian College Day.

Supplementary Reports Needed

Annual reports from the churches are gradually coming in to the Conference office. The punctuality of Church Clerks is really appreciated.

Your Conference staff will be grateful also if you will be sure to send in the **SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS** "as soon as possible after the 1971 officers are chosen." Not only should the names of officers be given, but also their addresses. Occasionally we need to contact Treasurers, Youth Advisors, or others, and we must rely on the **SUPPLEMENTARY Reports** for such information.

Official Call To General Synod

Announcement is hereby made of the meeting of the Eighth General Synod of the United Church of Christ to be held in the Civic Auditorium, Grand Rapids, Michigan, beginning at 9 A. M., Friday, June 25, 1971, and continuing through 10 P. M., Tuesday, June 29, 1971.

Robert V. Moss, U.C.C. President
Joseph H. Evans, Secretary

East Alabama Newsletter Appears

Two issues of the proposed monthly *Newsletter* of East Alabama Association have already been received in the Conference office. Editor Allen B. Hollis Jr., of Langdale promises that this will be a monthly publication.

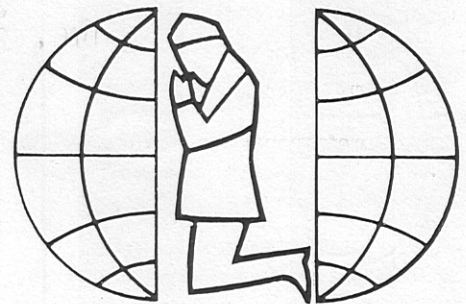
In the November issue, the Editor wrote, among other things, "One after another I have heard say that this (the fall) association meeting had the best spirit we have had in years.

"All of us recognize that a thing like that doesn't just happen. The spirit of a meeting reflects the spirit of the people present and their churches."

The *Southeast News* welcomes the East Alabama *Newsletter* to the growing attempts to lessen the communication gap in the churches of the Conference. May its life be long and fruitful

U. C. C. PRES.— (fr. p. 1)
battle for Racial Justice in a new way."

In his conclusion, Dr. Moss asserted that "the United Church of Christ needs Black Theology. It is based—as I understand it—upon the conviction that the content of the gospel is liberation—that this is what salvation is."



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Be sure **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** finds you prepared! So we are reminded in the monthly publication *The Church Woman*.

As an individual: Are you using the Call to Prayer and distributing it to your friends?

Are you participating in your community's year-round involvement in the theme, "New Life Awaits"?

Are you Thinking Through Tomorrow in preparation for the Eumenical Assembly in Wichita April 22 - 25?

What kind of new life awaits?

As an officer of a local unit of Church Women United: Have you ordered all your materials for World Day of Prayer? Planning packets? Bulk supplies of the poster, worship service, Call to Prayer, offering envelopes?

Are you exploring new and broader ways to develop this Celebration by holding, in advance

. . . retreats

. . . study groups and Triple-T (Thinking Through Tomorrow) Forums?

Obtain your Celebrations Order Form and supply materials from Service Center, Church Women United, Box 37815, Cincinnati, Ohio 45237.

Consultation On Church Union

Responding to appeals for more time to study a possible plan of union offered last March, COCU has extended until June 1, 1972, the period for study, criticism and suggested changes. The extension followed conferences around the nation in which regional leaders of the nine denominations involved expressed the feeling that the study period was too short.

A guide, called *What Does God Require of Us Now?* has been written by Vic Jameson, Associate Director of the United Presbyterian Office of Information. Cost of the guide is 35c; it is available through denominational bookstores.

Ordination Prayer For James Lindskoog

Eternal God, we gather together in your name to ordain James Lindskoog as your servant in the service of men. In ordaining him we do not intend to make him a professional son of God; rather we seek to rightly relate him and his ministry to your church. As we acknowledge him to be a minister in your name, we praise you for the work you accomplish through the institution of the church and we praise you for the work you do without the institution of the church.

In being obedient to you and the highest values of mankind, James' service will require much of him. As he becomes increasingly involved in the struggle for justice, peace, and brotherhood, grant him wisdom, strength, and courage.

Be with him as he speaks the truth in this world of ignorance and intentional error. Let him speak the truth when it is comforting to do so. Let him speak the truth when to do so disturbs, incriminates, and challenges. Let him live in truth. Let him do the truth. And let him do these with mercifulness.

Be with him as he compromises. O God, even when we know the truth it is not always possible to do the truth or to convince others of the truth. And often we do not know the truth, yet we are compelled to act as wisely as we can. So be with him as he compromises with ignorance and from ignorance, with evil and from evil, with truth and from truth. And when he compromises even that which is dearest to him, be with him in his turmoil and pain.

Be with him when he fights, O God, for fight he must. Teach him to fight like you. Teach him that the goals he seeks and the God he serves determine the weapons he will use and the manner in which he will use his weapons. Teach him to fight, fearing no institution or government, industry or religion.

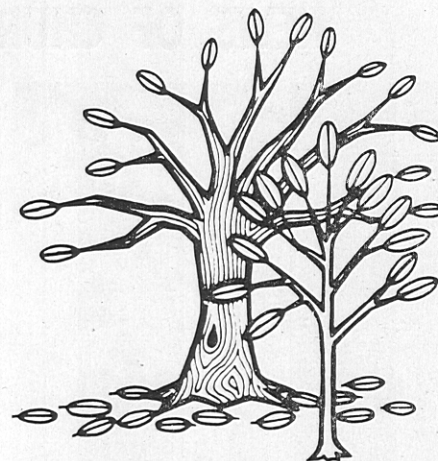
Be with him as he loves. Grant him the grace deeply to love his wife and family and all who love him. And grant him the grace deeply to love those who despise, ridicule and attempt to destroy him. His enemies will hate him and engage in efforts to prevent him from fulfilling the tasks you give him. Yet before he fights, as he fights, and after he has fought his enemies, let him love even them.

Be with him as he succeeds. As he is victorious in efforts to bring about needed social change be with him. Let not the rewards of victory prevent him from further efforts. Let him not rest in his victory and the comfortable prestige that comes with it.

Be with him as he fails. The evils against which he struggles are powerful and destructive. In this world they often overcome good men. Be with James when he fails because of ignorance, when he fails because of weakness, when he fails because of his own sinfulness. Pick him up when he falls, O God. Renew his faith, refresh his strength, restore his courage and rekindle his commitment.

Be with him, O God, that he may lead your people as he follows you in ways of peace, justice and brotherhood. And cooperating with you, O God, we shall overcome. Amen.

(Written and prayed by Donald S. Daughtry at the ordination of James Lindskoog at First Congregational Church, Atlanta, Ga., November 22, 1970.)



YOUTH MINISTRY SEC YOUTH TO MEET AT SUMATANGA

At last we've done it!

After trying for several years to find a camp setting for our Annual Weekend, we think we'll do it in 1971.

Several persons — young people and adults, too — didn't like the idea of staying here-and-there at motels and homes, and wasting time getting to and from the meeting place. And so we tried to find a meeting place that would suit our needs: winterized, large, not too expensive, a setting with several meeting rooms and a large dining room — a place where we could be ourselves.

So, from Friday evening after supper through Sunday after noon dinner (March 12, 13, and 14), we'll be at:

CAMP SUMATANGA (a Methodist Camp, but all ours for the weekend), just off Interstate 59, near Gallant, Alabama.

Save the dates and some money — between \$10 and \$12, depending on the number who attend. Get your bedding and towels laundered and ready, and watch the mails for full details.

E. Alabama Youth Elect Officers

Despite torrential rains, the young people of East Alabama Association met for their quarterly rally in the fall at Langdale Church. The following were elected as officers for 1970-71: President, Nancy Duke of Oak Grove Church; Vice President, Claudia Blackstrom of Bethel Church; Secretary, Teresa Hollis of Langdale Church; Reporter, Debbie Benefield of Oak Grove Church.

When *Newsday* of Long Island sent an ad bill notice to *Christian Outreach* in Wantagh, N. Y., the address read: "Board of Christian Outrage."

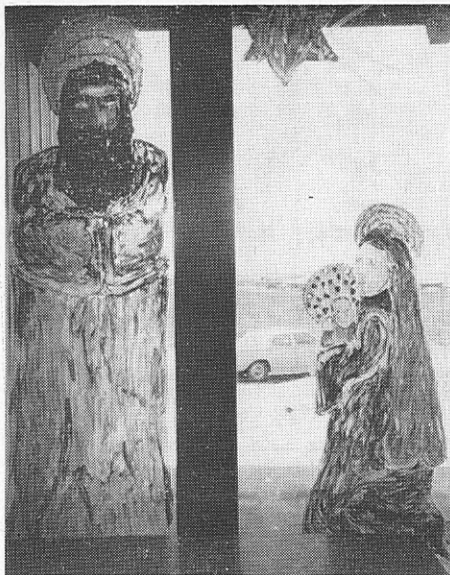
Rev. Ben E. Lewis Named Consultant

Word has come that Rev. Ben E. Lewis, former pastor of our Sweetwater Church and now at Lincoln Temple, Washington, D. C., has been appointed Consultant to the Washington Field Office of the Commission for Racial Justice, as of November 10, 1970. We note also that he is serving on the Board of Directors of the United Black Churchmen.

We congratulate Mr. Lewis on these new roles, even though they require of him additional hard work.



NEWS OF CHURCHES OF THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE



Arts And Trees At Huntsville

As the SEC YOUTH officers arrived at the United Church, Huntsville, for their weekend meeting on Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6, everywhere there were ladders, tempera paints, and the smells of food being cooked and pine being cut. And of course, there were people, mostly junior and senior high young people and their advisors, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Ormond, busy . . . busy . . . busy!

The Huntsville people were preparing for Christmas. Young people were painting the large windows in the narthex with traditional scenes of wise men (there was room for only two), and Joseph, Mary, and the Infant Jesus.

There was also a rehearsal for a not-so-traditional Christmas presentation. Soon a tree, cut by the young people and Mr. Ormond, was brought in and erected, but not decorated. Finally, all was ready.

On Sunday morning the tree was decorated in a not-so-traditional manner with ornaments of socks, mittens, shirts, and you-name-it for the Winnebago Children's Home in Wisconsin.

Because they themselves know the meaning of need, members of the Huntsville Church tried to make the Holy Day of Christmas a bit brighter for needy people in the Robbins Parish, Tennessee, by sending to Rev. Annie Campbell a gift of money to be used at her discretion.

Huntsville United Church is without a regular pastor, but the people are busy about the Lord's business.

Sweetwater Church Hosts Churchmanship Institute

First U.C.C., Sweetwater, Tenn., was host for the Churchmanship Institute on Sunday, November 15. Approximately sixty-five lay men, women and pastors attended from First and Pilgrim Churches, Chattanooga, Church of the Savior, Knoxville, First Church, Crossville, and the Community Church, Pleasant Hill.

The Rev. J. L. H. Williams, host pastor, led the inspiring worship service. The local church choir, augmented by several visitors, presented special music. Mrs. Alberta Sharpe served as pianist. Also included in the service were scripture and prayer led by Rev. Donald Flick, vocal solos rendered by Mesdames Nancye Upton and Nettie Donaldson, and a message on Thankfulness offered by Miss Yubenia Prigmore. Pastor Williams gave words of welcome.

Following the worship service, the group was divided into small working groups: Christian Education, Community Outreach, Program Planning for Adults, and Evangelism and Stewardship.

Delicious refreshments were served by the women of the host church

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS SHARES GROCERIES

Fifteen members of the Oak Grove Adult Sunday School Class have pledged to give \$1.00 each per week from their grocery budget to help with the hungry people of northern India. In twelve months this will total \$780.00, and is to be sent through the Southeast Conference office monthly. The Rev. John Crozier, as World Ministries speaker at the annual association meetings in the fall of 1967 left a lasting impression on our delegates and this Christian Service project came to bear fruit in October of 1970.

Mr. Crozier had said that as he went about his work each day he saw people who had died of hunger during the night. Each of these class members felt that although they would not sacrifice, their combined dollars added together would help to some extent.

Some of the folk of the Oak Grove Church shared in another of Mr. Crozier's responsibilities in the area of Maharashtra, India in the spring of 1968 by sending him well-drilling equipment for finding and drilling for water.



Wadley Honors Octogenarian Members

The Wadley Christian Church celebrated the spirit of Christmas on Sunday, December 20, by giving recognition to its octogenarian members.

Among its small membership, four belong to this classification: Dr. Simon A. Bennett, who teaches a Sunday School class; Mr. J. H. Carson, a faithful church member; Miss Vera Van Cleave, who has been church pianist for about thirty years; and Rev. A. R. Van Cleave, pictured, who is in his twenty-first year as pastor.

At the close of a service in a New Jersey Church, a bulletin typographical error caused the congregation to pray: "Almighty and everlasting God, always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and willing to give more than we desire or deserve, pour upon us the abundance of your money . . ." There's nothing like letting God know what is uppermost in our prayers.

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Rush Memorial Church, Atlanta, Hails New Year

On the first Sunday in January each year, Rush Memorial Church, Atlanta, uses no weekly bulletin. The pastor, Rev. Joseph E. Boone, says that such an omission is deliberate in order that people may not feel "programmed" but may realize that spontaneous participation is intended.

And the people do take part, according as the Spirit leads them. On Sunday, January 3, some led in prayer, some led the congregation in singing, one person requested a particular number from the church choir, and some spoke of their faith and their resolve to live in 1971 for God who had spared their lives thus far.

Aware that OCWM giving was lagging, the pastor called on members to bring special gifts to the altar to help make up the deficit. "We have found money to spend on ourselves," he said. "Now since our church has been repainted on the inside and most of us have found money for Christmas gifts, parties, ball games, and new clothes, let's give sacrificially—not just the traditional \$1.00—so that little children and adults in various parts of the world may eat and have clothing and shelter." The organ and piano began to play, most of the members dug down into their pockets and purses, went forward, and laid money on the Communion Table.

Communion closed the service.

Todd Church Members Help To Meet Needs

Members of Todd Church, Shawmut, Alabama, have found tangible ways to thank God for their own blessings.

On November 9, 1969 an offering amounting to \$203.50 was received for the people suffering in Biafra.

Late in 1970, the Handley Mill in Roanoke closed, leaving over eight hundred people unemployed. On December 6, it was announced that the church would receive a "sacrificial offering" for emergency use in Roanoke. A goal of \$750 was set, with the date being December 13. We are happy to report that Todd Church not only met this goal, but exceeded it, receiving \$781.

In the Sunday bulletin, the testimony is offered, "When we let Jesus lead us, no goal is impossible, even at Christmas when we have so many other things to buy."



Development Helps Everybody

In the Madrapakkan area of Chingleput district of South India, the National Council of (Indian) Churches, through its Committee on Christian Social Action, Welfare, and Relief, is helping the cause of national development.

In the photo above, a group of villagers are building a road. This church-sponsored project will not only open the way for economic development of the region—a long term goal—but it will also provide immediate food for the workers' families. This is a "food for work" effort, one of the programs which we help sponsor through our United Church Board for World Ministries. Similar projects have recently been undertaken in Africa, Latin America and the Far East.

Through such efforts people receive food while still retaining their dignity, and national development is also served.

Samaritan Fund Established

Several weeks ago, without warning, the Handley Mills of Roanoke closed, leaving more than 800 people out of work. Many of these are members of our U.C.C. churches.

Interested laymen of the area have established the "Samaritan Fund" for the relief of people in and around Roanoke. Several sizeable donations have already been received. Others may send checks payable to the "Samaritan Fund" in care of Rev. Ralph Worley, 301 Handley Ave., Roanoke, Ala. 36274.

Although the men realize that they can scarcely even make a dent in the problem

Oak Grove Hosts Laymen's Meeting

Saturday, November 28, the Oak Grove Church was host to the quarterly meeting of the East Ala.-West Ga. Men's Fellowship, with fifty persons present. An offering of \$110 was received in lieu of the cost of the meals and was donated by the host to the Samaritan Fund.

Meetings for 1971 were set as follows: Feb. 27, Ladies Night (time and place to be announced), May 29 at Elder Church, Dadeville; August 28, LaGrange United Church.

Officers elected for 1971 included: President, Bently Thompson; Vice President, Robert Grengle; Secretary, Horace Welch.

BWM Elects Treasurer

At the annual meeting of the U.C.C. Board for World Ministries, held recently in Seattle, Wash., the Rev. Myles H. Walburn, New York City, was today elected treasurer of the overseas mission board of the United Church of Christ.

Mr. Walburn will be responsible for an annual budget of approximately seven million dollars. He will begin his new position in the spring at the Board's headquarters in New York. He succeeds the Rev. Dr. Everett A. Babcock, who is retiring.

Mr. Walburn was a missionary in Hong Kong and Indonesia under the United Church Board for World Ministries for seven years and from 1966 to 1968 was the Board's personal secretary. For the past two years he has been director of the inter-denominational Overseas Personnel Recruitment Office, which recruits men and women for overseas work for eight denominations and religious agencies.

Mr. Walburn began his overseas career at the age of nine when his father, a YMCA executive, took his family to China.

Born in San Diego, Calif., on Sept. 19, 1929, Mr. Walburn was graduated from George Williams College, Chicago, in 1953 and from the University of Chicago Divinity School in 1956.

over a prolonged period, still "a Christian cannot let the sheer size of a task prevent him from doing his best."

The Rev. Mr. Worley and Mr. J. K. Murphy along with a committee of laymen will determine the needs and how the fund can respond to it.

(from the East Alabama Association
Newsletter)

Guidelines Prepared For UCC Investments

"High risk, low return" investments to achieve "maximum social impact" are urged by the Executive Council of the U.C.C. in suggesting guide lines for funds of national instrumentalities and for state and regional conferences. The announcement of the new guide lines was made by President Dr. Robert V. Moss, following the Executive Council's approval of a study which took more than a year. Quoting from the announcement, "It is urged that all Instrumentalities and Conferences seriously consider the investment of a substantial portion, not less than 10%, of its unrestricted funds in high-risk and low-return (but maximum social impact) investments where the purpose is consistent with its charter provisions."

"What the new guide lines mean, in essence," Dr. Moss explained, "is that with

unrestricted funds the church should be willing to accept a lower rate of return, and accept a higher degree of risk in some of our investments, in order to place our money where it will do the most social good. Ordinarily, one seeks the most interest for one's money, but we should be willing to accept less where a bank is investing in black companies, or a company is combating pollution, or is accomplishing similar social improvements."

In making the announcement, Dr. Moss pointed out further that both the instrumentalities and the conferences already had begun a program of making socially significant investments, and emphasized that the goal of 10% of unrestricted funds was an initial objective, to be extended as soon as legal limitations could be lifted in whole or in part.

Parish Ministry Scholarships Available

Pastoral ministries are increasingly being challenged to demonstrate competence and validity by a world whose parishes are defying definition.

Since those who are in the ministry must continue professional development, education in tune with the changes in expectations confronting clergymen is essential. Consequently, the U. C. C. Council for Church and Ministry is offering study grants to parish ministers.

The funds, made available through the 1970 Family Thank Offering, will be granted to individuals — not to institutions — as matching scholarships. The conference and/or associations, the home congregation, and the minister are expected to participate in the cost of the program.

Two specific categories of request for financial assistance will be considered:

1. REGULAR GRANTS OF \$100 toward the cost of short-term seminary or university courses, or such programs as offered by the Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies;

2. SPECIAL GRANTS OF \$100-\$500 for a study leave or sabbatical program, a travel project, or extended study at a seminary or university.

An accounting of need for the grant will be expected.

The Council for Church and Ministry is aware of its responsibility in the continuing education of its constituency.

Tear out and mail this application form to:

COUNCIL FOR CHURCH AND MINISTRY

Room 70, 289 Park Avenue South,
New York, New York 10010

Full Name _____

Address _____

Position _____

Home Telephone No. _____ Church Telephone No. _____

Conference _____ Association _____

Circle the most descriptive title:

Course of Study _____ Workshop _____ Sensitivity Training _____

Other (specify) _____

Circle Category 1 Category 2 (see description above)

new MEDIA news

"THE MEANING OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP" is a fascinating filmstrip set about the church—what it is and what it means to be a part of it.

Designed for use with older juniors, junior high and senior high young people, it may be utilized in classes in church membership, confirmation and pastor's classes, as well as church school classes and youth groups.

The set is divided into four sections:

I. THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH, from its early beginning to the church coming to America. Historical sequences are photographed at the actual locations where the events occurred.

II. I NEED THE CHURCH. Denise, a typical teen-ager and church member, tries to answer the question, "Why does anybody in our generation have any need for the church?"

III. THE CHURCH NEEDS ME. When Greg leads his church youth group in a discussion of "Why the Church Needs Me," he is forced to do some serious thinking.

IV. THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH demonstrates how rapid scientific break-throughs, the "explosion" of world population, and revolutions within revolutions have changed the world scene, challenging the church to reach out to the world in new ways with the message of God's love through Christ.

The filmstrip set is available for loan from the Conference office. Order well in advance of desired date and, if possible, make both first and second choices of dates.

Southeast Conference Annual Meeting

The 1971 Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13, at Fiske University, Nashville, Tenn. Although further details will be given as the time approaches, churches will want to select delegates soon,

When asked recently the meaning of "Churchmanship Institute," an occupant of the Conference cars replied, "It's for men caught 'in the middle' of the Church as an Institution!"